

SENATE BILL 3744
By Burchett

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 39, Part 2 and Title 55, Chapter 50, to require sexual offenders and violent sexual offenders to carry certain forms of identification.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 40, Chapter 39, Part 2, is amended by adding the following new section:

§40-39-212.

(a) By January 1, 2007, every sexual offender and violent sexual offender required to register pursuant to this part who is a resident of this state shall obtain and always have in such offender's possession either a valid driver license or photo identification card issued by the department of safety pursuant to title 55, chapter 50, part 3. If any offender is ineligible to be issued a driver license or photo identification card, the department shall provide the offender some other form of identification card or documentation that, if it is kept in the offender's possession, will satisfy the requirements of this section and §55-50-353. If any sexual offender or violent sexual offender is determined to be indigent, an identification card or other documentation in lieu thereof shall be issued to the offender at no cost.

(b) A violation of this section shall be punished as provided in §40-39-208.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-39-208, is amended by adding the following new subdivision to subsection (a):

() Failure to obtain or carry a valid driver license or photo identification card issued by the department of safety as required by §40-39-212.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 55, Chapter 50, Part 3, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

§55-50-353. When the department issues or renews a driver license or photo identification card to a sexual offender or violent sexual offender as required by §40-39-212, such driver license or photo identification card shall bear a designation sufficient to enable a law enforcement officer to identify the bearer of such license or card as a sexual offender or violent sexual offender.

SECTION 2. For the purposes of developing and approving designations on driver licenses or cards, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2007, the public welfare requiring it.